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General Assembly

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Sixtieth session
Second Committee

Allocation of agenda items to the Second Committee

Letter dated 21 September 2005 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Second Committee

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the decisions taken by the General Assembly at the 17th plenary meeting of its sixtieth session, on 20 September 2005, pertaining to the allocation of items to the Second Committee (see annex).

I wish to draw your attention to the recommendations on the organization of the session contained in section II of the report of the General Committee (A/60/250). Those recommendations were also approved by the General Assembly at its 17th plenary meeting.

May I also draw your attention to the relevant parts of sections IV and V of the report concerning the agenda of the Main Committees.

I earnestly request your cooperation in these matters.

(*Signed*) Jan **Eliasson**

05-51847 (E) 220905

Annex

Allocation of items to the Second Committee

1. Election of the officers of the Main Committees [item 5].

A. Maintenance of international peace and security

2. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources [item 38].

B. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

3. Information and communication technologies for development [item 49].

   [In accordance with decision 58/569 of 1 July 2004, the General Assembly will consider the report of the World Summit on the Information Society directly in plenary meeting at its sixtieth session.]

4. Macroeconomic policy questions [item 50]:

   (a) International trade and development;

   (b) International financial system and development;

   (c) External debt crisis and development.

5. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development [item 51].

   [In accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 59/145, the General Assembly held on 14 September 2005 a separate meeting on Financing for Development within the framework of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly.]

6. Sustainable development [item 52]:

   (a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

   (b) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

   (c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

   (d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;

   (e) Sustainable development in mountain regions;

(f) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005;

(g) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

(h) Convention on Biological Diversity;

(i) Rendering assistance to poor mountain countries to overcome obstacles in socio-economic and ecological areas.

7. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) [item 53].

8. Globalization and interdependence [item 54]:

(a) Globalization and interdependence;

(b) Science and technology for development;

(c) International migration and development;

(d) Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin.

9. Groups of countries in special situations [item 55]:

(a) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

(b) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation.

10. Eradication of poverty and other development issues [item 56]:

(a) Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006);

(b) Women in development;

(c) Human resources development.

11. Operational activities for development [item 57]:

[The General Assembly decided that the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the operations, management and budget of the United Nations Development Fund for Women would be referred to the Second Committee for consideration under item 57.]

(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

(b) South-South cooperation: economic and technical cooperation among developing countries.

12. Training and research [item 58]:

    (a) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

    (b) United Nations System Staff College in Turin, Italy.

13. Towards global partnerships [item 59].

E. Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts

14. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance [item 73]:

    (b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

15. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [item 116].

    [The General Assembly decided to allocate item 116 to all the Main Committees for the sole purpose of considering and taking action on their respective tentative programmes of work.]

16. Programme planning [item 125].

    [The General Assembly decided to allocate item 125 to the Second Committee, for its consideration of and appropriate action on sections C.1 and C.2 of chapter III, concerning evaluation, of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its forty-fifth session (A/60/16).]

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Agenda item 55 (b)

Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

Letter dated 26 September 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Chairman of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries, I have the honour to transmit herewith the ministerial communiqué adopted at the Sixth Annual Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 19 September 2005 (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 55 (b).

(*Signed*) Alounkèo **Kittikhoun**

05-54127 (E) 141005

Annex to the letter dated 26 September 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Chairman of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries addressed to the Secretary-General

Communiqué of the Sixth Annual Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries

New York, 19 September 2005

We, the Ministers of landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), meeting here at the Headquarters of the United Nations on the sideline of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] in which Heads of State and Government recognized the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries and urged both bilateral and multilateral donors to increase financial and technical assistance to this group of countries to meet their particular development needs and to help them to overcome the impediments of geography by improving their transit transport systems, and resolved to create an environment, at the national, subregional, regional and global levels alike, that is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty,

Recalling also the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/201,

Recalling further the ministerial communiqués adopted at the annual ministerial meetings of landlocked developing countries convened in 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004,

Recalling the São Paulo Consensus adopted at UNCTAD XI, held in São Paulo, Brazil on 18 June 2004,[2]

Bearing in mind the decision[3] adopted by the WTO General Council on 1 August 2004, which established modalities for the successful conclusion of the Doha Development Round,

Expressing the concern that the landlocked developing countries are being increasingly marginalized in multilateral trade and faced with a declining market share in world trade. Transaction costs for LLDCs remain excessive due to their lack of access to the sea, remoteness and isolation from world markets, dependence on transit services and policies of their transit neighbours, prohibitive transit costs, long customs and administrative delays at additional border crossings and ports and cumbersome procedures,

1. *Stress* that the Almaty Programme of Action provides a global framework for partnership to undertake specific actions on five priorities in order to establish efficient transit transport systems in landlocked and transit developing countries.

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[1] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[2] TD/410.

[3] WT/L/579.

2. *Call upon* our development partners and transit neighbours to fulfil their commitments regarding the effective and expeditious implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action. We *urge* the United Nations system organizations, the Bretton Woods institutions and all other international, regional and subregional organizations, within their respective mandates, to support as a priority the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, including through programmes of financial and technical cooperation devoted to assisting LLDCs. We also *stress* the need to further promote South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation as well as cooperation among subregional and regional organizations in support of the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action.

3. *Welcome* the outcome of the High-level Meeting on the Role of International, Regional and Subregional Organizations in the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, which was organized by the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Almaty, Kazakhstan, from 29 to 31 March 2005. We strongly endorse the joint communiqué[4] adopted by the High-level Meeting.

4. *Commend* the continued efforts made by the Government of Kazakhstan in promoting the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and express our sincere thanks to the Government and people of the Republic of Kazakhstan for their generous hospitality and support for the successful holding of this High-level Meeting.

5. *Strongly endorse* the Asunción Platform[5] for the Doha Development Round, adopted at the Meeting of the Ministers of LLDCs Responsible for Trade, held in Asunción, Paraguay, on 9 and 10 August 2005, which constitutes a common strategy for LLDCs' effective participation in the WTO trade negotiations and beyond, on the seven issues of critical importance to them, namely, trade facilitation, small and vulnerable economies, agriculture, non-agricultural market access, special and differential treatment, accession and technical cooperation and capacity-building. In this context, the UN-OHRLLS is requested to further enhance its coordination and cooperation with relevant international organizations, including the World Bank, UNDP, UNCTAD, the United Nations regional commissions, WTO and the World Customs Organization, with a view to assisting LLDCs in the effective implementation of the Platform.

6. *Commend* the Government of Paraguay for successfully hosting the Meeting of the Ministers of LLDCs Responsible for Trade in Asunción and *welcome* the decision to entrust Paraguay as coordinator of the Group of LLDCs on issues related to trade and development to pursue the common position of the Group, as outlined in the Asunción Platform, at the Sixth WTO Ministerial Conference, to be held in Hong Kong, China, and beyond.

7. *Emphasizing* the need to build effective dialogue between business communities and Governments of LLDCs aimed at facilitating more active involvement of the private sector in the process of implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, we suggest the convening in 2006 of a business forum with the participation of representatives of the business circles of LLDCs, transit

[4] A/60/75, annex II.
[5] A/60/308, annex.

countries and external business community, as well as representatives and experts from the United Nations and international financial organizations. We also request the UN-OHRLLS to submit to the Chairman of the Group of LLDCs its possible concrete proposals concerning the above business forum.

8. *Stress* the need for the full and effective implementation of the São Paulo Consensus adopted at UNCTAD XI in São Paulo, Brazil, on 18 June 2004, in particular LLDCs-related paragraphs 66 and 84 thereof, as well as General Assembly resolution 59/245 of 22 December 2004, by WTO and other relevant international organizations and donors in a multi-stakeholder approach.

9. *Welcome* the outcome of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, recognizing, inter alia, the special needs and challenges facing LLDCs and reaffirming the commitment of the international community to urgently address those needs and challenges through the full, timely and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and the São Paulo Consensus, and encouraging the work undertaken by United Nations regional commissions and organizations towards establishing a time-cost methodology to measure the progress in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action. It also recognizes difficulties and concerns of LLDCs in their efforts to integrate their economies into the international trading system, and in this regard calls for priority to be given to the full and timely implementation of the Almaty Declaration and the Almaty Programme of Action.

10. Request the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to further mobilize and coordinate international support and resources for the effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action in accordance with its mandate provided therein.

11. *Request* the Chairman of the Group of LLDCs to have the present communiqué circulated as a document of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly.